

## **ABSTRACT**

A method and system utilizing a multi-level expedited forwarding per hop behavior (MLEF PHB) which manages buffer space to provide priority to calls based on a predefined priority scheme. The MLEF PHB defines a set of configurable parameters that define how much  
5 buffer space is available to each class or level of voice call. The MLEF PHB may optionally be implemented as programming statements in the SIP User Agent, SIP Proxy, and kernel of a LINUX-based PC router. The MLEF PHB applies an algorithm for dropping packets exceeding a caller precedence level-specific buffer capacity, which variable buffer capacity is determined by the particular DSCP (and the particular MLEF PHB to which it relates).

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